MONTEREY NEWS

June 2016

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Town Meeting Report

It was a dreary and chilly morning when 121 Monterey citizens gathered in the fire house to decide the fate of the town for the next year. The speakers near the ceiling, and assistive listening devices for those that needed them, as well as the fan shaped arrangement of the chairs, which made it easy for everyone to see, hear, and participate, were much appreciated.

The morning began with a special town meeting at 9:15, which had only one item on the warrant. The transfer of $21,440 from the Fire Department Training and Education Account to the Fire Department Expenses Account was quickly passed, and then the meeting was adjourned.

Everyone had to be checked back in before the main event, but with the expertise and organization of Stella Bodner and Norma Champigny, folks were quickly settled back into their seats with their pink voting cards. The meeting was officially called to order by Moderator Mark Makuc at 9:30, and a motion to waive the reading of the entire warrant was made and seconded, much to the relief of those assembled.

Makuc began the meeting with a moment of silence for those citizens who had passed away during the last year and who had served the Town of Monterey in some capacity. Included in this group were the late Frank "Dewey" Vorck, John Bodner, Carol Ingher, and Stefan Grotz. This was followed by a reminder that while anyone is welcome to attend town meeting, only those registered in Monterey can vote.

Then the actual work of the meeting began. The first three articles were passed without discussion. Article 4, the budget, took some time as the entire budget needed to be read by the Moderator with holds requested on certainmitems for discussion. A few holds were placed and discussion on these items ensued after the budget proposal was read.

Maureen Banner

Town meeting enjoyed a strong turnout of interested residents.

(There were many articles that were voted and passed in a perfunctory fashion. This report will focus on those articles that generated information for the town. Editor)

Assistant Town Clerk Salary

Item 165 had to do with the assistant town clerk wages being reduced from $5,000 to $0. Barbara Swann, a former town clerk, took issue with this matter saying that in the event that the town clerk is not available to deal with a pressing matter, it is important to have an assistant who can fill in as needed. She made a motion to amend this line item to $1,000. Michael Storch asked why the salary for an assistant had been removed and Scott Jenssen responded that the town clerk is allowed to appoint an assistant as needed, but the town is not required to pay this person. Jenssen gave a brief history of the town clerk position which he said had been in "shambles," and while the current town clerk, Jennifer Brown, had previously needed an assistant, she indicated that this was no longer necessary. However, he indicated that if someone needs help, they should get it and was not adverse to Barbara Swann's motion. He also said that if the town clerk goes on vacation, the payment for the assistant comes out of the clerk's salary. Ms. Swann countered that the Massachusetts Association of Town Clerks has said that this practice is no longer acceptable. A motion to move the question was passed as well as the motion to add $1,000 to the budget for an assistant clerk.

School Budget

Item 310 of the budget was for the Operating and Transportation Costs for the schools, and it was not surprising that the most expensive item on the budget was cause for lengthy discussion. Mary Ellen Brown started things off by asking if the budget included funding for pre-K classes. When informed by the business administrator for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD), Christine Regan, that it did, Ms. Brown asked when the towns in the district had agreed to stop charging tuition for these programs. School Superintendent David Hastings responded that the change occurred in 2014 because the tuition that was generated was negligible.

Ms. Brown then brought up the sore point of a kindergarten program in Monterey for the upcoming school year, and Mr. Hastings replied that as of the day before, no one had registered for kindergarten in Monterey. Ms. Brown said, "Monterey is entitled to a program in Monterey, regardless of how many children are in Monterey, as part of being in this district. We don't have the program we are entitled to." Mr. Hastings again reiterated that no families have requested a program in Monterey. He went on to say that three towns have already voted in favor of the budget, which must be approved by July 1 or else the state will come in and determine the budget and review all contractual agreements.

Maria Rundle, in her last year as the SBRSD representative for Monterey, spoke to several of these issues. She said that not having pre-K students pay tuition actually saved money by providing early intervention services to those who need it. She also indicated that the school committee is in favor of keeping the Monterey School open, as it is not a huge drag on the budget. When the previous kindergarten teacher moved over to New Marlborough Central School, the district tried hard to increase enrollment for the Monterey School, but when there were no registrants, the program was suspended. The same situation is occurring for the 2017 school year. Ms. Rundle was emphatic that the school committee wants to keep the Monterey program open and that she knows from personal experience about the value of this school.

Ms. Rundle then went on to discuss the assessment error for Monterey. She said there are two state formulas that are used for calculating the assessment owed by each member town. Our district always uses the bare minimum formula. However, last year the formulas were switched due to a spreadsheet error only after the budget had been passed in all five towns last May. Unfortunately, this meant that the towns of Sheffield and New Marlborough owed more money to the district (while Monterey, Egremont, and Alford owed less). This was recouped by gutting the district budget by $315,708, which Ms. Rundle said was a "huge step backwards" and not sustainable for good education. The reductions, including savings in other areas, reduced the five towns' assessments for 2016 by $455,828, and decreased Monterey's portion by $169,986. (Not only is this less than what the town approved for the 2016 budget, it is $50,000 less than what Monterey's portion would have been if there had been no error and no subsequent budget cuts.)

Carol Edelman, candidate for select board, responded to this by saying, "We bailed out Sheffield and New Marlborough on the backs of our school children. When you owe money, you pay it." Michael Storch asked how this budget would affect the children. Dave Hastings replied that certain funds were emptied out, a custodian was not replaced, and the district fortunately received more money for transportation than they expected. He said that nothing was taken from the children's programs and they will be able to maintain ratios of 17:1 at the elementary level and 13:1 at the high school level.

Christine Martin was recognized and said, "This budget vote should not be a forum for the Monterey kindergarten or for the unforgivable behavior of Sheffield and New Marborough," and urged the townspeople to support the budget. Marya Makuc, a student at Mount Everett, was allowed to speak and said she has been a part of the school district since the age of four. She asked the voters to set aside their concerns with the school district and support the budget. A big round of applause followed her comments.

Barbara Swann returned to the issue of the Monterey School and asked why any parent would sign up their child for a program that has no teacher, and Dave Hastings replied that the school district would find a teacher if there were any enrollment. Mary Ellen Brown said that the children in New Marlborough used to be sent to Monterey for kindergarten before a program was opened at the New Marlborough Central School. She said, "Monterey deserves a kindergarten program," and it should be the only one in this part of the district. Carol Edelman said that the dilemma of the Monterey kindergarten is not about a teacher or the distribution of the kindergarten students but about the condition of the building, which has been sorely neglected. She asked, "Who would put their child in that building?" Maria Rundle agreed about

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the state of the building and said that the District had $10,000 to use with matching funds from Monterey but has not used it yet, to which Scott Jenssen said, "Would you put $10,000 into a building without a teacher?"

Jenssen was also vocal in his feelings about not supporting the school budget and urged voters to send a message to the SBRSD that "we are a little ticked off." He wondered why young people leave the area at age eighteen and why there are not enough young people trained as tradespeople. He asserted that the trades are not taught in school, and when you need someone to swing a hammer or fix your air conditioner or heating system, young people do not have the needed skills. He made reference to the robotics program at Mount Everett and asked, "How many of you need robotics in your home?" Later on in the meeting, Mr. Jenssen abashedly re-worded his point in response to a note from a sixth grader in the audience who did not appreciate this stance, and said that robotics and trades need to go hand in hand. With regard to the school budget, Jenssen said, "At what point do we say no?" He cited the lack of communication with the school committee as well as the lack of courtesy and wondered what the town would have to lose by saying "no" to the budget. He also suggested that the school budget be amended to zero, but later amended that to fund the school budget based on the FY2016 figures.

A Parliament of Owls,
A Conspiracy of Ravens:
recent work by David Bacharach

June 10 - July 23

Reception: Saturday, June 11, 6-7:30pm
with artist talk from 6:00-6:30pm

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More discussion ensued, some of it only tangential to the question of the school budget, but all of it filled with concern about the education of Monterey's children. There was a vote on the motion to reduce the school budget to the previous year's figures, and a show of hands resulted in a vote of 27 to 76 against this motion. The school budget of $1,413,429 was accepted as originally proposed.

School committee representative Dennis Sears took the floor to recognize Maria Rundle for her services. He said that she brought a new form of energy and skills to the school committee and thanked her for her contributions. He also indicated that although she is stepping down as Monterey's SBRSD representative, she will remain on the regional school planning board with Farmington River.

Article 10: New Fire Truck

With the school budget out the way, the next lengthy discussion was on Article 10, to appropriate $650,000 to purchase a new fire truck. Fire Chief Shawn Tryon provided the information that one of the current fire trucks is twenty years old and is in need of repair. A new fire truck would have all of the newest safety features required by insurance regulations. Michele Miller inquired if every town gets a new truck every twenty years, and Chief Tryon said this was the case. Chief Tryon told the voters that the first fire truck on a scene must be under twenty years old. The truck that is being considered for purchase is not brand new but has only been used at fairs for demonstration purposes and would cost much less than one that is brand new. When asked about the fate of the old truck, Tryon said it would most likely go to California and be used to fight wildfires out there. There are fewer regulations about trucks for that use. Josh Allentuck asked about the trade-in value of the old truck, and Tryon said that it would be $30,000 and would go toward the purchase of the new truck. Larry Klein asked if the new truck would have an aerial ladder and the answer to this was affirmative. Chief Tryon said this would be very helpful in allowing the firefighters to more quickly and safely get onto roofs to cut holes in them. Kenn Basler summed up the discussion by say-

cont. on page 4

The Town

Select board meeting from April 19 through May 5.

Town Meeting Preparations

The board spent a significant portion of several meetings discussing technical concerns over line items and specific articles to prepare for town meeting. Many of the details of their discussions were rendered moot by the decisions made at town meeting, which are reflected in the Town Meeting Report, beginning on page 1, by Laurie Shaw.

Finances

Over the course of several meetings, the board discussed various loan options for financing the transfer station construction and the purchase of the new fire truck. They directed the treasurer to contact area banks for rates and terms. Using this information, the board and the finance committee decided unanimously to take the longest loan periods available, which is seven years for the transfer station project, and eight years for the fire truck. The first payment on the new fire truck will not be due until FY2018. One outstanding question was whether either loan would have a prepayment clause—one which, presumably, would permit prepayment without penalty.

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ing, "This is a safety issue." A secret ballot requiring a two-thirds vote was necessary for this article, which passed by 96 to 16.

The pace then picked up with Articles 11–19 being quickly passed by voice vote. Funds were appropriated for the loan and interest on the grader, fire department rescue vehicle, and hydraulic tools as well as on the F550 highway truck. The loan and interest payments on the SBRSD bond (for the new roof and boiler at Mt. Everett school campus) were approved, as was a new Stabilization Fund for Bridges, Roads and Culverts. The sum of $150,000 was approved for the general stabilization fund and additional funds were appropriated for the Retiree Health and Life Insurance Fund and its stabilization fund. Then, $38,000 was appropriated to be transferred from Free Cash to reduce the tax levy for the upcoming fiscal year.

Article 20: Community Center

After these fairly routine financial transactions, things got lively again with Article 20, a citizen petition to raise and appropriate the sum of $40,000 for the completion of the renovation of the Wilson-McLaughlin House. Joe Baker, president of the Wilson-McLaughlin House Committee, started off the discussion. (Full disclosure: this writer is a member of the FWMH committee.) He said that committee members had met with the select board and finance committee and thought they had their support for the funding but was surprised to see a sentence of non-support from the finance committee on the warrant. Finance committee member Stan Ross immediately respond saying that the finance committee has no authority regarding a citizen petition, and the statement of non-support should not have appeared on the warrant. Baker gratefully acknowledged this revelation and went on to show a pie chart indicating what funds have been raised so far and from where they were received. He said that the $40,000 being requested would be primarily used for materials and some professional labor for plumbing and electrical work. The bulk of the work would be done by volunteer labor. When asked when the house would be ready to be used as a community center, Baker responded, "later this year." Michael Banner, another FWMH committee member, spoke to the thousands of volunteer hours that have already gone into the project and what the cost would have been without this volunteer labor. He indicated that an independent assessment of the remaining work, given by Mark Amstead, projected the cost to be more than twice the amount the volunteers could do with the $40,000 appropriation. Mickey Jervas asked why the building was more costly to renovate than originally projected and Baker responded that as the project progressed, significant structural needs surfaced and required hiring a structural engineer, replacing of the basement floor, and reinforcing of the second floor with steel beams.

The possible uses for the community center when completed were discussed, as well as the plan to turn the administration of the community center over to the town within three years of completion. Stanley Ross asked about the projected costs for running the community center, and Joe Baker responded that while it is impossible to accurately assess this now, the income from paid programs and rentals should cover most of the expenses. Michele Miller commented that she was moved by the fact that the committee has persevered so long with this project and is creating something that will honor Edith Wilson, who donated the house and land to the town. Select board member Steve Weisz said he was very impressed with the work that Joe Baker, Michael Banner, and others have done on the house, and he would "like to hire them for the school house." He went on to say "how lucky we are in Monterey to have people who have been putting in the time and energy to make this happen." A motion was made to move the question and when the voice vote was taken, the funds for the renovation of the Wilson-McLaughlin House was overwhelmingly appropriated.

Article 26: Secondary Dwelling Units

The planning board asked the town to alter the Monterey Zoning Bylaws to allow Secondary Dwelling Units (SDUs). There was some brisk discussion on this matter. Steven Enoch from the planning board gave a brief rationale for this article, saying that the purpose was to encourage more affordable housing for young families, provide access to families with aging members, and allow people to stay in their homes and have their children come back or to build a more accessible home. As clearly stated in the article, SDUs would only be permitted on lots of at least two acres that have a minimum of two hundred feet of road frontage. Maggie Leonard, the planning board chair, said that this

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would not change things substantially because it would not be affordable for many people to have another housing unit on their property.

Mickey Jervas asked several questions about specific points of the proposal, and Ms. Leonard indicated that such a plan would allow for moderate growth of the population with people that are already here and that there are some advantages to increased population density. John Sylbert commented that "this is a very imperfect idea," which would allow transient people to move in, have little impact on affordable housing, would not increase home ownership, and would benefit only a few people. Michele Miller retorted that there is no shame in being transient and that there is something to be said for sharing what we have, especially in the case of taking care of elderly family members. Kay Purcell, a member of the council on aging, indicated that we should show support for various types of families and that it is an asset to have neighbors. Joe Baker was supportive of the article saying that it "encompasses the most progressive ideas on zoning." Larry Klein offered the fact that two hundred towns in Massachusetts have similar bylaws, and Dennis Downing said that, as a lawyer, he has been associated with planning boards from other towns who have enacted this type of bylaw and there have been no regrets about it. Finally, after a motion to move the question along, a show of pink cards passed the addition to the bylaw with a vote of 92 to 5.

Article 27 was a citizen petition to ban the use of beaver traps but as no one made a motion on this article, it was passed over.

Article 28: Herbicide Ban

This article to ban herbicides in and around Lake Garfield and Brewers Pond was introduced and proved to be the most contentious part of the meeting. Richard Jaffe spoke first, saying that highly invasive Eurasian milfoil has spread over twelve acres and will continue to spread unless something is done. He said that many procedural safeguards are built into the use of herbicides and without them a very expensive weed harvester would be needed. He brought with him aquatic scientist Ken Wagner to explain more about the possible use of herbicides. There was some question about letting a person who is not a resident speak, but Moderator Makuc said that allowances have been made for this in the past, and so Mr. Wagner took the floor. He warned the townspeople about creating a blanket disapproval of the use of herbicides. He urged the voters to consider the right tool for the problem, follow the prescribed process, temper concerns with knowledge of the risks, and to be consistent. Mr. Wagner said that herbicides are already being used on Stevens Pond and other area lakes.

Bonner McAllester spoke up and said that Eurasian milfoil has been around for many years. "I don't find it frightening and I don't agree with the use of herbicides," she said, and went on to warn that they may interfere with the many other native plants. Steve Weisz had done some research and said that the herbicide in question, Sonar, may create other problems as it breaks down, and that it is not recommended for use in the European Union. Pat Salomon cautioned against internet research, saying that it might not be accurate and that we need to have a standard of scientific knowledge.

Kenn Basler suggested that the article should read "for a period of one year," and then we could have a better informed discussion. Scott Jenssen suggested that in the meantime, we should pull weeds, limit the use of phosphates, take it slow, and "think this out clearly." Mr. Wagner said the plan is to do a small pilot study and see what happens.

At this point, Carol Edelman directed a question to Mr. Wagner, asking him if he was paid to be at the town meeting. He responded by saying, "That's a good question. I hope to be paid." Mr. Jaffe said he is paid to be an advisor to the Friends of Lake Garfield. Ms. Edelman responded that since the lake is part of our ecosystem, we should not have a trial period or take the word of a paid consultant.

There were various proposals to change the wording of the article such as amending "and around" Lake Garfield and Brewers Pond or perhaps using the "Lake Garfield watershed" instead. Ron Hoogs advised that to include the watershed could affect people in a lot of unexpected ways and that the wording should not be so broad. A vote by pink cards was taken and the amendment to include the watershed failed by 36 to 46. So the discussion then went back to the one-year proposal ,and it was finally voted to have the article read: To see if the Town will vote to ban the use of herbicides in Lake Garfield and Brewers Pond for a period of one year. This article was overwhelmingly passed.

Appreciation for Scott Jenssen

After a few more articles were quickly dealt with, Kenn Basler suggested a round of applause for Scott Jenssen who is retiring from the select board. Jenssen said that he has enjoyed the past eight years and ten months of his term, but that the past two months have been very stressful. However, he thanked everyone for coming to town meeting and stressed the importance of the democratic process. He in turn thanked Kenn Basler for his work on the select board and said that many projects have been pushed through due to his efforts.

Article 29 was a citizen petition to "overturn mandated tax from private group targeting deeds with water rights," but as no one made a motion on this article, it was passed over.

At 1:52 p.m. the meeting was adjourned by Moderator Mark Makuc and the weary and hungry citizens of Monterey went home, having taking care of the business of the town for yet another year.

—Laurie Shaw

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The Town, cont. from page 3

Town Clerk

The town clerk has decided to not have scheduled office hours, and to be available by appointment only. The board was concerned about how this might affect residents needing the clerk's service. The board requested the clerk to meet with them to discuss this, but the clerk declined the invitation. As the town clerk is an elected official, it is within the clerk's discretion how to manage the office.

Treasurer

The board was preparing for another transition in the treasurer's office. The current treasurer, Sue Funk, had been appointed in 2015 as treasurer upon the resignation of the previously elected treasurer. The appointment could only be until new town elections this May. The board wanted to make sure that there was a good transition.

The accountant brought a few concerns to the board. He stated that he did not have time to train the new treasurer on the software systems. The only candidate for treasurer, Jennifer Brown, declined the help offered by Sue Funk, so the board made a formal request to Ms. Brown to accept Ms. Funk's offer. The accountant advised that the responsibility for payroll should remain with the treasurer, to which the board agreed. The accountant also brought some other management concerns to the board's attention. He then informed the board that due to some frustrations on his part, he would only work through May 10, and not until September as originally planned.

Ms. Funk later suggested to the board that she be appointed as assistant to the accountant, to work five hours per week for a month to assist with the transition to a new treasurer. The board approved of this idea, and it will be reviewed in June to determine if more help is still needed.

The issue of a credit card payment system for use at the transfer station, and possibly elsewhere in town, was reviewed. The current treasurer said she did not have time to work on this while she was preparing for the audit. Weisz said that he would take up the credit card system with the new treasurer.

The board also agreed that new residents to the town prior to July 1 will be able to purchase a FY17 transfer station sticker, receive a current year sticker for the balance of the year, and then receive a new sticker once they become available.

Broadband

The board solicited membership for a broadband advisory committee. The newly formed committee is comprised of "BJ" Johnson, Cliff Weiss, and select board member Steven Weisz. BJ noted that he had tried three times to contact the town clerk for the purpose of swearing in the committee, but as of April 25 had not been successful, preventing the committee from meeting. Weisz and Johnson reported on having made a site visit to another municipally-owned broadband system. They left with encouraging news that if funds were made available, the build-out could be finished by January 2018 with a model similar to that of Leverett, MA.

The select board also approved a letter to be sent to Governor Baker's office requesting that the last-mile funding held by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute be released to the town. They also prepared a resolution to be sent along with the letter. See page 27.

Lake Garfield

The board was upset to learn that the Friends of Lake Garfield (FLG) had submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the conservation commission requesting permission to use herbicides in the management of the lake. A suggestion was made to send a letter to Representative Pignatelli retracting the board's support of the proposed act to form a prudential tax district.

The following week the board composed and signed a letter to the conservation commission in regards to the FLG's filing of the NOI. The board stated, "Due to the ongoing studies of toxicity and possible long-term effects on wildlife and non-invasive plants, the Monterey select board does not support the use of any chemical herbicides in and around Lake Garfield."

Community Center

Since the Wilson-McLaughlin House plumbing system is nearing completion, the board is moving ahead with installing a new water line from the Monterey Water Company's main line on Main Road. Weisz contacted Tryon Construction, who do the construction work for the water company, for an estimate. The projected cost is in the neighborhood of $2,500. Money had not been appropriated

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at town meeting for this expense, but the board felt it was the town's responsibility to have water service installed and would look for money in the highway budget so the work could proceed during this fiscal year.

Though not directly related to the community center, town counsel provided the board with a draft of a letter to be sent to Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation concerning the possibility of selling the Bally Gally house on New Marlboro Road. Proceeds from a sale could potentially support both the town's expenses regarding the community center and add to the Wilson Scholarship fund, as originally stipulated in Edith Wilson's will.

Memorial Day Preparations

Mike Johnson informed the board that the town should receive new free rifles for Memorial Day, and can expect them to be delivered by mid-May.

Also, the school band has been confirmed for marching in the parade. The board realizes the need for an emcee as Steve Pullen will be out of the area. Board chair Scott Jenssen provided the administrative assistant with a list of all the responsibilities of the Memorial Day Coordinator.

Julio Rodriquez was appointed as the Veteran's Service Officer.

—Stephen Moore

Note: Since the departure of Jill Pajka in April, the Monterey News *has been without a town reporter. We have approached a number of people, and published two notices in the paper hoping to find someone willing to serve the readers this way. We still have not found anyone. In the meantime, a summary from the approved select board meeting minutes will be used. However, without a presence at the meetings, it is not possible to develop a narrative of the conversations, provide quotations, or report on the contributions made by everyone who has attended these meetings. A good report provides the readers an understanding of what the concerns are, and what has gone into the decisions the select board makes.*

The Town Report is a core service to our residents and the board. If anyone would like to help in this role, please contact the editor at MontereyNews9@gmail.com.

May 10 Town Election Slate

The year's election for town officers was held on Tuesday, May 10.

Below are the vote tallies. There were 217 ballots received, but not every office received votes on every ballot, so the totals vary.

Contested Seats

Select Board (3 years)
Carol Edelman 136
Michael C. Johnson 73

Tree Warden (1 year)
Winston Wilson 109
Kevin Fitzpatrick 94

Uncontested Seats

Board of Appeals (5 years)
Stan Ross 177

Board of Assessors (3 years)
Stan Ross 176

Board of Health (3 years)
Julio Rodriguez 177

Cemetery Commission (3 years)
Mary Makuc 189

Constable (3 years)
Ray Tryon 178

Finance Committee (3 years)
Jon Sylbert 164

Library Trustee (3 years, vote for 2)
Lisa Smyle 178
Mickey Jervas 167

Library Trustee (1 years)
John Higgins 185

Moderator (1 year)
Mark Makuc 192

Parks Commission (3 years)
Julio Rodriquez 168
Angelica Collins 158

Planning Board (5 years)
Larry Klein 172

Planning Board (2 years)
Richard Piepho 153

Town Treasurer (3 years)
Jennifer Brown 139

Tax Collector (3 years)
Mari Enoch 194

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Library News
Expansion Design

It's time to update the town on the progress the Monterey Library has made on doing the work involved within the Planning and Design grant that we received from the state a year ago.

Over five years ago the trustees started on a strategic planning process using the suggestions and framework given to us by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. MBLC consultants came out and helped us hold a forum, draft and carry out a survey, and study the trends of Monterey patrons, as well as worldwide trends in library services. Using this long-range plan, we were able to identify changes that we could make, expand our services, increase our open hours. We have continued to grow since.

The major area that we were unable to deal with was the building itself. We moved things around inside and created a children's area by moving the public computers into the stacks. We expanded some parts of the collection at the expense of others. In the end, we still have a building that is not accessible to everyone. The bathroom is in the basement and lacks hot water. The building was built before building codes were in place, and as a result, the building's mechanical systems, such as the heating, alarm, plumbing, and electrical, are not up to today's standards..

The structure has survived since 1931, due in part to constant maintenance, but the original roof system of asbestos tile, which has never been replaced, is not long for this world, and the roof structure that was adequate in 1931 is not up to today's standards. Of course, the original library was designed, as most libraries of that time were, to have a section for reading and a section for stacks with books. We've added office, exhibit, and multipurpose room space, and somehow have room for computers and other types of audio and visual materials, but how do you create a space where teens can feel comfortable, or someone without internet access at home can Skype without disturbing others?

Luckily, our timing was right and the state announced a round of planning and design grants. We applied, were awarded a grant, and are currently in the process of discovering how we might better serve everyone in the town, now with the assistance of professional architects and engineers. Before we even hired the architect, we established a building needs committee and, by holding another forum and a survey, we learned from citizens what the town wanted from library services. We compared that to state standards so that nothing was overlooked. We hired Karen Klopfer, a librarian from Pittsfield, who worked on the bookmobile that served Monterey for decades and who consulted in this kind of work for many libraries in this area, to guide us in the task of making the theoretical world of library services meet the reality of our town. With her help we were able to draft a building program that told the architect clearly what we were looking for. The Monterey Library building program is available on the website, montereymasslibrary.org, (under "Events", then a drop-down menu in the upper right corner). Please take some time to browse through it and see what is being proposed.

The challenge has been to look at our library with an outside perspective. We considered various sites available in town and determined that the library at its current location is a cornerstone of the village, even though it is not an easy site to develop. We've considered the space required to serve the needs of Monterey. We drew diagrams of the relationships of areas and services to see how we could keep the best part of the original building and enhance it with new space. The library needs to be able to be staffed by one person, and because of the lack of available building space on the lot next to the river, as well as the need for the building to be accessible in all areas, we had to be creative. The location of the river, while a challenge, also provides a beautiful natural feature on the site that complements the original building's traditional New England architecture. We've worked hard to enhance the building without compromising our mission and our services, or losing the feel of our small-town library that so many patrons have used over the past eighty-five years.

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Energy conservation was clearly important to the original builders of the library. Mr. Abercrombie was paid one dollar a month to put the coal in the furnace to heat the library. We've since moved to oil, and with a programmable thermostat we continue to conserve energy. It's time, however, to insulate beyond the standards of the 1970s. It's time to make the building safe and accessible to everyone in this town.

In January 2017, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners will be accepting applications for a new round of construction grants. The purpose of this grant is to aid libraries which are especially in need of updating facilities. Our planning and design grant puts us in a good position to secure an additional grant and fulfills some of the requirements for the construction grant application. If we are selected, the state will fund about 60% of the construction costs to renovate and add to our library. Our building is deficient in many ways, including the lack of an accessible ground floor bathroom, and the purpose of this grant is to boost those libraries especially in need of updated facilities. We will be coming to you at town meeting for approval to apply for the grant, as well as to present a plan that is the result of your input via surveys and forums, and through the response you have all shown to our improved programming and services. The success of the Knox Gallery has been an amazing lesson in what creative thinking can accomplish.

We are currently in the process of developing some very innovative ideas to show you. We hope that you will be as excited as we are that the Monterey Library has the possibility of making a major step towards the future. In the next few months we will have a completed plan that shows how we can transform the library. We will bring it to everyone in town, and we are confident that with your approval and financial support, the Monterey Library will be able to serve our visitors well into the future.

—Mark Makuc, Library Director, and trustees Lisa Smyle, Mickey Jervas, Beth Reiter, Kenn Basler, MaryPaul Yates, and John Higgins.

ॐ

P.O Box 9

Herbicides in the Lake

Dear Monterey Neighbors,

Two days after our May town meeting, I went to a public hearing of the Monterey Conservation Commission concerning an "Abbreviated Notice of Intent" which had been filed by the Friends of Lake Garfield c/o Michael Germain. This notice of a public hearing was published in advance in the *Berkshire Eagle* and in the town hall, and some folks got letters about it because of being abutters to the project. The project is a management program for the lake, involving assorted monitoring and implementing measures, " … specifically with the use of…aquatic herbicides." Some people weren't sure if the public hearing would even be held, since any such herbicides were banned by vote at town meeting. I called up and found the hearing was on.

One fellow at the hearing had contacted attorney Jeremiah Pollard, town counsel, to see what to do about a Notice of Intent that included use of a substance banned in our town. The reply he got, from Pollard, was that 1) the applicant could withdraw the application, or else 2) the conservation commission must deny the application. When I heard this, just before 6 p.m. when the hearing was to start, I figured I would be home soon for supper.

It was not so quick, but it turned out the applicant wasn't present at the hearing, so he could not withdraw. The conservation commission had done its job, studied the Notice of Intent, including the detailed and lengthy Management Program written by SOLitude Lake Management of Virginia Beach, VA, with an office in Shrewsbury. The conservation commission was ready to give it respectful consideration, but no one knew what to do in light of the town meeting vote forbidding the use of the herbicides. Even though the legal advice was read several times by the fellow who had it in writing from Jeremiah Pollard, it took awhile for respectful consideration to inevitably result in a vote for denial of the application.

That is what happened. When I got home I looked up the SOLitude company and found that they sell the chemical herbicide, Sonar, and I could buy a gallon for $2,045.00. The only catch, besides the price-tag, was that pesticide regulations prohibit shipping this chemical, also called fluridone, to quite a few states including all the ones in New England plus five others. This leaves me wondering how many of us would like to put fluridone in the water here. Some folks had been assured this was never the intent of the formation of the Lake Garfield Tax District, which was narrowly approved by vote at a special town meeting back in the winter. One fellow who spoke at the recent public hearing said he is feeling a lack of trust, now.

We voted unanimously at town meeting for a one-year moratorium on herbicides in the lake. Maybe that is enough time to develop a plan we trust. We may need more time than that.

—Bonner J. McAllester

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June at the Knox Gallery

The opening for Richard Kimball's exhibit, *Paintings In and Out*, was well attended. If you have not yet seen these rich, colorful paintings, please hurry to visit the gallery while they are on view, through June 4.

Arthur Sherman of Stockbridge chatting with Richard Kimball at Kimball's opening reception.

David Bacharach's *A Parliament of Owls, A Conspiracy of Ravens* opens on June 10, with a reception the following evening, on Saturday, June 11, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The artist will speak about his work at 6 p.m., immediately before the reception.

For over thirty years, Bacharach has been creating unique vessels, jewelry, and hand-woven metal compositions in his northern Maryland countryside studio. Bacharach strives to create objects that evidence not only artistic value but a craftsman-like, hand-wrought approach to materials. He starts with easily recognized forms and develops ideas through series. By approaching his subject matter from divergent stylistic directions, he elicits a variety of emotional and visual reactions.

Two interests inspired the artist's new body of work: wind-powered kinetic sculpture and the architectural beauty of insects, birds, and plants. With his traditional metalsmithing and basketry proficiency, he has further evolved his approach, combining recycled roofing copper and steel from fabricators' scrap piles into intricately detailed forms.

The artist comments, "I have noticed that casual observers often view the natural world primarily as outlines and shadows. Delicate insects, birds, and plant life are overlooked and over-powered in the mind's eye by color and silhouette." Bacharach's sculptures reveal his visual understanding that the natural world can only be revealed in the details. "As in nature," he continues, "my sculptures' outlines and shadows grab a viewer's attention first, but as each observer allows time to explore a piece, I strive to surprise."

A frequent visitor to Monterey, Bacharach and his wife, Debbie, are longtime friends of Michael and Maureen Banner, as these artists exhibited in the same national fine crafts shows for many years. Both the Banners and Bacharach are featured in a new book, *Craftspeople, In Their Own Words*, which chronicles the exhibiting crafts community, and donates all profits to the Craft Emergency Relief Fund. Bacharach is one of four collaborators who generously compiled this book for a worthy cause. (Please see tinyurl.com/z6lwezm)

A Parliament of Owls, A Conspiracy of Ravens will be on view through July 23. For more on David Bacharach, please see bacharachmetals.com.

Praying Mantis ©*David Bacharach, copper sculpture. Photo: Norman Watkins*

All exhibits can be viewed during library hours. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, 452 Main Road, Monterey, MA, 528-3795; MontereyMassLibrary.org/Knox-Gallery; @Knox_Gallery on Twitter; Facebook.com/KnoxGallery.

—MaryPaul Yates

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Monterey Graduates
Meet Our Mt. Everett Seniors

This year, Mt. Everett has four graduating seniors from Monterey. The commencement ceremony for the graduates will be on June 4, at 10 a.m., in the Koussevitzky Shed at Tanglewood in Lenox. The following profiles show just a brief snapshot of the seniors' high school highlights and future plans.

Chelsea Balestro is the daughter of Christopher and Darlene Balestro of Monterey. Chelsea will be attending the University of Central Florida in Orlando later this year and will major in pre-clinical health professions. After college, Chelsea plans to attend medical school with a focus in radiology. Chelsea has enjoyed participating in sports and volunteering at Saturday morning soccer while at Mt. Everett. Being able to teach soccer to younger students has given Chelsea an opportunity to help those who will eventually be in the same shoes as she is now. Mt. Everett taught Chelsea much about character, who she wants to become, and the impact a well-built community has on such a small school.

Justin Makuc is the son of Mark and Mary Makuc of Monterey. Justin will be attending The College of the Holy Cross this fall and majoring in political science. After his undergraduate years, he hopes to attend law school. At Mt. Everett, Justin participated in the high school robotics team, The Higgs Bots, as an on-field coach and driver of the robot. Justin will be graduating as valedictorian of his class.

Claudia Martin is the daughter of Del and Christine Martin of Monterey. Claudia is planning to attend the Massachusetts College of Art and Design where she will study graphic design or illustration. Claudia has run with the Mt. Everett cross country team for the past five years. Claudia believes that volunteering as a junior firefighter in the Monterey Fire Department has been one of the highlights of her high school years. She will fondly remember Monterey as a place that made her who she is today.

Shayna Sawyer is the daughter of Tom and Suzanne Sawyer of Monterey. Shayna will be attending the University of Rhode Island this fall and is hoping to major in speech-language pathology. Shayna has participated in the Berkshire Children's Chorus for the past seven years. Shayna has also acted as both a member and mentor of Mt. Everett's Girls Lego Robotics Club, which competes in the Berkshire County Robotics Challenge. Her favorite memories of Southern Berkshire Regional School District include many of the grade-wide events and trips.

Do you know of any other high school seniors graduating this spring who live in Monterey? Contact me at makuc.marya@gmail.com to include a profile for July's issue.

— Marya Makuc

P.O. Box 9
Thank you

To my friends and neighbors in Monterey,

Many thanks to all of you who took the time and made the effort to be informed, to attend and participate at our annual town meeting, and to vote in this year's town elections. I greatly appreciate the outpouring of support for my candidacy and election to the select board. Thanks as well to Michael Johnson who stepped up and offered himself as an alternate candidate. I look forward to working cooperatively and effectively with town departments, boards, officials and citizens, and I will do my best to maintain and improve the quality of life for all of us here in Monterey.

Looking forward,

— Carol Lewis Edelman
Carol@montereyma.gov

Council on Aging

The Hillstead Museum tour is planned for Friday, June 10. If you are interested call 528-9151 to check on available space.

Sunday, July 17, the Pittsfield Suns vs the Seahawk Mavericks of NH should be a fun event. It was last year. The picnic starts at 4 p.m. and the game at 5. Our seats will be in the grandstand. The picnic includes hamburgers, hotdogs, grilled chicken, pasta salad and more, including desserts. Cost is $10 each with a supplement from the council. All ages are welcome. Bring a grand…, bring a neighbor. Come root for the home team.

— Kay Purcell

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Safe Boating
MA Boating Regulations

The Friends of Lake Garfield would like to remind everyone about the State of Massachusett's safe boating regulations. These rules help to promote the safety of everyone, and help to conserve the lake environment.

- No one under twelve years of age may operate any motorboat, unless accompanied onboard by an adult (18+). Ages twelve to fifteen can, but only if they have passed an approved safe boating course or if accompanied by an adult. No one under the age of sixteen may operate a personal watercraft (PWC). No exceptions.
- Be courteous to non-powered boats as they have the right-of-way.
- No watercraft shall be operated recklessly or dangerously.
- No water skiing/boarding/tubing without at least two people in the boat (driver and spotter).
- Always travel in a counterclockwise direction when pulling a skier/rider and at other times when possible.
- No operating a motorboat or PWC within 150 feet of any swimmer, waterskier, dock, float, or mooring area, or when the operator's vision is obscured in any way—if you must do so, no operating at greater than headway speed (6 mph).
- No water skiing/boarding/tubing on the smaller western portion of the lake.

Mary Makue

The beach phantom was caught setting up the ropes and docks at Lake Garfield.

- No wake in the channel and no operating at greater than headway speed (6 mph).
- A skipper is responsible for damage caused by his/her wake, so reduce speed when appropriate.
- U.S. Coast Guard-approved life vests are required for each person.
- No operating any vessel under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Report all unsafe boating activities to the Monterey Police (528-3211). Try to get the registration number of the offending boat.

For more information about Massachusetts safe boating regulations go to: boat-ed.com/ma/handbook.

—Friends of Lake Garfield

In Rememberance
Gordon Stafford

It is with sadness I report the demise of my brother, Gordon Stafford, a Monterey town resident from 1924 to 1942, on March 15. He was 91. Gordon was born to the Stafford family on the Swann state forestland. He was the third of four siblings, having been preceded by a brother, William, and a sister, Evalyn, who are interred along with our parents, Earle and Edith Stafford, in the Corashire Cemetery on Blue Hill Road.

He spent three years in the Army in WWII before settling in Santa Barbara. After graduating from University of California in 1952, Gordon became a radio announcer at KIST in Santa Barbara CA from 1947 to around 1972. He moved to Lamar, CO, where Claire lived to be with her brother. Gordon married her and became a member of the radio staff in Lamar. Claire's brother owned several radio stations and used Gordon and Claire as "radio station doctors" to revamp failing stations and revitalize them. The last station they salvaged was in Sierra Vista, AZ. They like the area so much they decided to retire and settle there in 1993.

They remained there ever since. Gordon was stricken with Alzheimer's, and after a five-year bout with that terrible disease, passed away quietly in the local hospital. He leaves Claire, his wife of forty-four years, who is still well at 87, three grown children from a previous marriage living in Los Angeles, and his younger brother, Shelton, age 88, in the Phoenix area. He is missed.

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Brotherhood of Veterans
"Welcome Home"

Navaho code talker Peter MacDonald and Steve Pullen in Arizona. Steve and Sally later met Bennjamin Pikyavit, a park ranger who told some of the tale of the Mormons and the Paiute Indians in the southwest.

Sally and I will miss the town Memorial Day festivities due to our extended tour of the Southwest. We have seen some remarkable landscape and met many memorable people. America is filled with so many kind and friendly people. While traveling, I mostly wear a cap identifying me as a Marine Corps veteran. Not because I want people to acknowledge my service, although that is meaningful and it is touching to receive those words. I love to meet other veterans to share how we have coped since our war experiences. Of course, we are in Indian country, and two of my most memorable encounters were with Native American veterans.

We were in a hotel in Kayenta, AZ, near Monument Valley on the Navaho reservation. At breakfast I had the great honor to meet Peter MacDonald, a former WWII Marine Navaho code talker. He later spoke to a group of French tourists, so I listened to his story. In the island campaign at the end of the war the Marines could not find a radio code that the Japanese couldn't break. Somehow it was discovered that the Navaho language was totally baffling to the Japanese. A total of 450 Navahos were recruited into the Marine Corps. They developed a code using their language; for example, for the letter "A" they used the Navaho word for apple. Voice communication is much faster than encryption or morse code. The code talkers were valuable beyond measure. The Navaho code was classified as top secret. The code talkers were told they couldn't tell anyone about what they did. It wasn't until 1968 that it was declassified. Perhaps that is why they never really got the recognition they deserved.

Peter said that there are only sixteen surviving members. Perhaps his longevity can be explained by the fact that in 1944, he was only fifteen! He lied about his age. On his first landing he was only sixteen. He was very gracious, and he is still very sharp. He described carrying a pouch of corn pollen around his neck, which he would sprinkle on himself in treacherous situations.

We have had time to visit some out-of-the-way places. One was the Pipe Spring National Monument in northwestern Arizona, about sixty miles from the rim of the Grand Canyon. The tragic story of this place involves post-Civil War era Mormons and Paiute Indians.

At the time, much of the area of the southwestern states were still part of Mexico, so there were Mormons living in both the United States and Mexico. The Paiute Indians had lived on this land for many centuries. There were tall grasses that "would tickle a horse's tummy." There were also wild sunflowers that were a primary part of the Paiute diet. There was a magnificent spring sprouting from a fault in the earth. The Mormons moved in and ultimately built a stone fort around the spring. They raised fifty thousand head of cattle which destroyed the grasses and the sunflowers. The Paiutes obviously got the worst of it.

A park ranger led a tour of the fort. He was a Paiute named Bennjamin Pikyavit. He had a long wispy white beard and pigtails from his head that hung down his chest. He was a proud and almost stoic man, who had a very wry sense of humor. He did a remarkable job of explaining the history of the place in an unbiased way, telling the story of all the parties trying to live on that land and the political forces controlling them. We had only seven people on the tour that lasted an hour. He shared how he learned many things from his grandmother who lived to be 112! Her favorite food was pork spare ribs. She knew the Mormons personally.

After the tour, I was off photographing when he came up to me and looked me in the eye. Then to my surprise he gave me a long bear hug and said, "Welcome Home!" He was in the Army in Vietnam in 1969. We talked about our post war issues: hearing aids that don't hear, agent orange, diabetes, etc. Then he told me he took many ceremonial sweat lodges and trips to the rim of the Grand Canyon to get back to himself. Then he hugged me again and said, "Welcome Home!" again and left me in awe of our powerful connection. He also told me a picture was on display in the museum from his Vietnam days.

I've met many other veterans as well, including one who was in the same battalion with me at the same time. I must say it has been a cathartic experience for me. Among Vietnam veterans, "Welcome Home" is the preferred greeting to "thank you for your service." It is pretty well documented that there was no welcome after that war. In fact, many of us were blamed for it, which is pretty ironic since most were drafted. But the bond of brotherhood among us is strong.

— Steve Pullen

Transfer Station Summer Hours

Sunday	10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Beth, Dave, and Ben
Dump Crew for the Ages

For months I have been trying to write a piece for the *News* that expresses the overwhelming feeling of appreciation I experience every time I visit the dump (aka the transfer station). It's not about leaving my trash behind, although I do enjoy that sensation— it's about having the opportunity to visit with Beth and Dave and Ben, three of the most cheerful, positive folks ever.

I have a fairly long history with the Monterey dump. My first positive experience occurred in the late 1950s when my father headed off with our trash and returned with a television. We had never owned a television and were delighted. His find included a great huge antenna that he mounted atop a twenty-foot-tall pipe so we could rotate it by hand from the back porch of our cabin and pull in both the Albany NBC station and the Hartford CBS channel.

On several occasions in the mid-60s, I accompanied my brothers to the Monterey dump around dusk to shoot rats. It was great fun—they did it all the time. One night we brought my mother along and as we were leaving, she admitted to having had a very good time. I know it was the 60s because my brother, Sanjiban, had dubbed one of the primary landfill rodent arteries "The Ho Chi Minh Trail." (He had not yet had a movie camera placed in his hands, so there is no footage.)

Over the last twenty years, as the dump became more and more of a transfer station, I often experienced performance anxiety. I was never sure exactly where everything was supposed to go and what should be co-mingled. I wasn't sure who to ask, especially when the door of the attendant's room was closed. Should I knock?

Now, you pull in to 40 Gould Road and are greeted with smiling faces and folks who are eager to chat and help unload your trash. Anything, and I mean anything, they think might be able to be reused by someone, is considered for the Swap Shop. If the guys aren't sure, they consult Beth, who has the final word. Last week I brought a very old garden hose that had seen better days, and I decided cut it into pieces before I left home, not only so it would fit in my car but so it definitively wouldn't find it's way into the swap shop.

Susan Sellew

Dave Gilmore, Beth Parks, and Ben Pac.

Last fall I pulled in and Ben was demonstrating techniques for using several unique gardening tools to a group of interested bystanders. I came back to the farm to tell Hannah about them as I thought they might interest her, but they didn't—she had dropped them off the day before.

Another day recently I noticed a small gathering of folks off to one side as I pulled in. Ben was conducting what seemed to be an extension cord repair workshop. I can't express how much I like this. It is good for people to be reminded that many things can be fixed rather than discarded. It is good for people to be reminded that they don't need to buy new stuff all the time. Last Christmas, I got many of the twenty gifts for the Rawson Brook Farm Christmas office party at the Swap Shop.

Mostly though, I find it so very lovely to be reminded of how pleasant it is to spend a bit of time every week with cheerful, smiling-faced folks, and that is the best gift I take home with me every time I visit the Monterey Transfer Station. Beth and Dave and Ben have transformed the dump into the best social scene in town.

—Susan Sellew

Transfer Station News

Looks like summer is finally on its way. We can tell not only because the weather is improving but because each and every week we are getting to see old friends again that have come back for the summer season.

One reminder: Please separate paper from your cans and bottles beforehand. It would make things move along a little faster for you and your neighbors waiting behind you, which is important this time of year.

If you think you will have any large items to dispose of, like appliances or bulky waste, or special waste items, check with us to determine the fees.

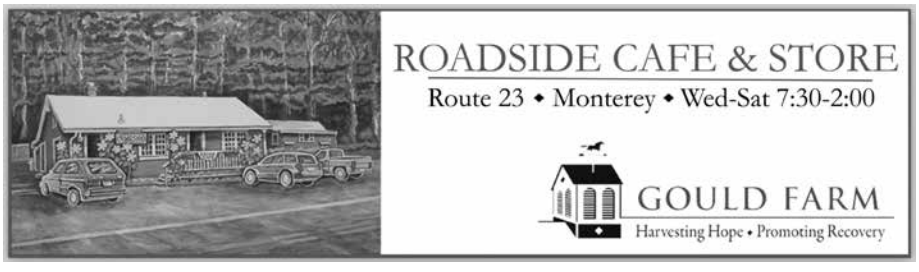
Our new transfer station is coming along well and with any luck we will be able to move in by the end of the summer. It will be a big change for all of us, but I'm sure it will be for the better. Next month I'll have some pictures of the progress. Right now it just looks like a big hole with a bunch of steel sticking up all over the place. *(See pictures on page 30.)*

The list of "wanted" items on the swap board keeps growing so fast, I can't keep up with listing everything. I do know that someone has a piano available for free to anyone who can pick it up. Is it any surprise that the *Berkshire Record* has voted the Monterey Swap Shop as the best swap shop in the Berkshires?

If there is anyone interested, you can now order duck eggs from Beth. Order today and you can pick them up the next day the transfer station is open or you can get them directly from Beth's house.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend and took time to remember what Memorial Day is all about.

—Thanks from Dave, Beth, and Ben



Lakeside Terrace
Unknown Entity for Guests

Meredith Oislander reached the point of selling Lakeside Terrace, so I spoke to her on the phone about her memories of working there, the town of Monterey, and the people who have helped her.

In 1962, Meredith Oislander and her sister, Majorie, were going to a summer camp near Monterey, and the camp director recommended Lakeside Terrace as a place for their parents to stay. Her father, William, fell in love with the place. Five years later William and Lillian bought it from the Staples family, who were employed to continue running it as a bed and breakfast. When William retired in 1983, the Oislanders took over managing the business.

Throughout the 1960s and '70s, Lakeside Terrace, with frontage on both Lake Garfield and Main Road, became a haven for professional people and artists. Doctors, editors from the *New York Times*, writers, and others would come to stay for two or three weeks, gathering inspiration from the beautiful views of Lake Garfield and the peaceful quality that Monterey boasts of.

When William passed away in 2001, Meredith took over managing Lakeside Terrace. She became its sole owner in 2010 when her mother passed away. Though her parents ran it as a hobby, she turned it into a business. Like her parents, she shared the desire for Lakeside Terrace to be something of an unknown entity for people to discover, explore, and keep returning to.

With the closing of Lakeside Terrace, Monterey no longer has a public inn or bed and breakfast to welcome guests to Monterey.

Oislander's memories of the town and the surrounding area include going fishing with her father, gatherings of family and friends, the steak roast, going to Tanglewood and Jacob's Pillow, the general store, the Roadside Store, and seeing her neighbors. She also shared that there's a fantastic community in Monterey of people that are compassionate, caring and show their concern.

As to the reason for selling at this point, Oislander said the house, while beautiful, is getting old and is too much for her to manage now.

Oislander would like to extend a special thank you to Walter and Andrea Parks, and her dear friend Barry Dingman for all their help through the years.

—Essy Dean

Essy, Julie Shapiro and Allan Dean's daughter, is engaged in an internship with the Monterey News. *She plans to graduate from Susquehanna University in December with a degree in creative writing.*

Monterey General Store
Paintings by Harry Orlyk

The Monterey general store is pleased to be hosting a reception with artist Harry Orlyk, whose work is currently being exhibited throughout the store. All are welcome to attend this event, Saturday, June 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

—Scott Cole

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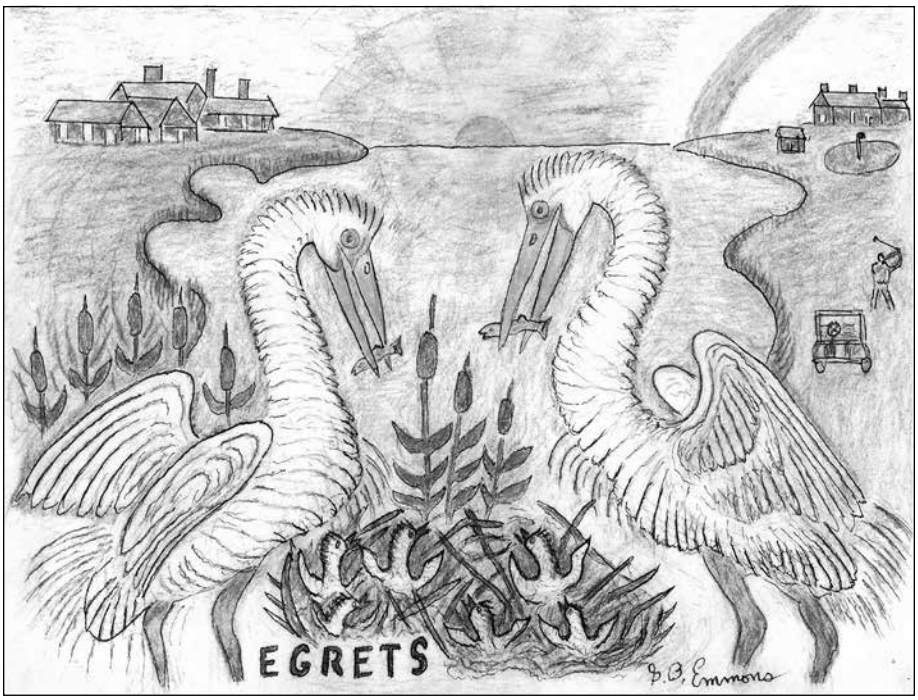
Wading Birds–The Egret

My afternoon ritual of a walk for bird watching took me down Reservation Road of the Mattapoisett peninsula that leads past the golf course toward the landmark on the peninsula point of the old King manor estate, which is now the YMCA pre-school where my daughter teaches. Along the scenic links of the lower golf course is an extensive marsh, a wading bird paradise for great blue herons, egrets, and a pair of swans. However, to make the afternoon entertaining as well as educational, I brought my clubs along.

When the author Mark Twain was asked his opinion of the game of golf, he said, "For me it is a good walk spoiled." However, today many of the open lands that border golf courses, even those in metropolitan neighborhoods, are a mecca for bird watchers as well as a habitat oasis for some wildlife species. The Reservation Golf Course is no exception. Teeing off from the first hole at the clubhouse is a long par-five, and my following fairway wood landed me next to the wetland looking out at several great egrets.



The great egret has a high profile, almost four feet tall, with a five-foot wing span, almost pure white with spectacular nuptial feathers called *aigrettes*, which are long wispy plumes that trail from the neck and back, as in my drawing. For this reason the great egret was hunted almost to extinction by the turn of the nineteenth century, as one ounce of this ethereal decoration for ladies' fashions sold for $32 an ounce, double the price of gold in 1886. The subsequent passage of the Migratory Bird Act fortunately ended the feather trade for market hunters.

Pesticides and chemicals also contributed to the demise of the population with eggshells becoming too thin for incubation. Both parents brood and feed the young, usually five in number in wetland nests. However only three or four survive to grow up, due to nest robbing by great horned owls, raccoons, and crows. The larger young are also known to eat the smaller ones. As waders, they stand motionless on long black legs, waiting for fish, shrimp, or sand worms. Then they strike swiftly with a long, sharp bill. The smaller snowy egret has yellow feet, called "golden slippers", used to stir up prey in shallow waters.

An hour before sunset, egrets wing their way from the marsh to roost in trees on higher ground, often gathering in larger groups for comfort in the coming night. They are gone by the time I tee up for the last hole toward the clubhouse. From my daughter's school I could hear the happy voices of the youngsters rushing out to be taken home. It was also getting close to the nineteenth hole for happy hour. Robert Frost once said that the Earth is a good place to love, and a golf course can be the same, as I experienced on my afternoon walk.

My best regards to my golfing friends, Stan Ross, Bart Miller, and George Cain.

—George B. Emmons

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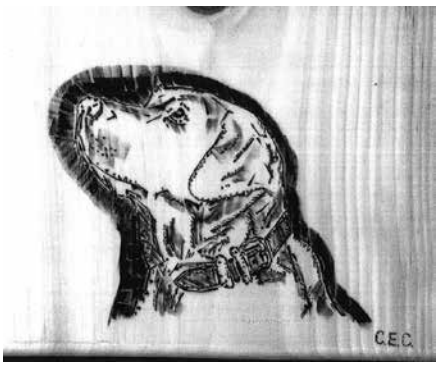
Preserving Children



1 large grassy field
1 warm summer sun
6 children
1 deep blue sky
3 friendly dogs
1 pebble
1 trickling brook

Directions:

Sprinkle the field with flowers.

Mix the children with the dogs and empty into field, stirring constantly.

Pour the brook gently over the pebble.

Cover all with deep blue sky and heat with warm summer sun.

When the children are well covered with dirt and grime, they may be removed.

Will be found exactly right for setting away in a cool bathtub.

This recipe kindly contributed by Jane Luka
From the Goodwin Family Cookbook, Old Saybrook, CT

Monterey Men—A True Tale

A guy I know, needing an extra-long ladder
for a piece of work around his place, his roof,
borrowed that ladder from a friend of ours in town,
the only one who happened to have such a thing.
Eight months passed, this guy held on to the ladder
and never did the job he'd borrowed it for.
Until this third friend also wanted the ladder
and knowing where it was, fetched it from
the borrower's where it leaned against his barn.

He went right to work, then returned it to the owner.
Which rankled the other guy on two grounds—
one practical, the other personal. I got this
tale from the rankled man. His voice rising
like a lawyer's, still he said it with a smile.
And I told it around town judiciously,
until the day maybe months after the fact
when it came to me the meaning of that smile, though
by then I couldn't recall whose ladder it was.

—Don Barkin

Dream Frogs in the Garden Pool

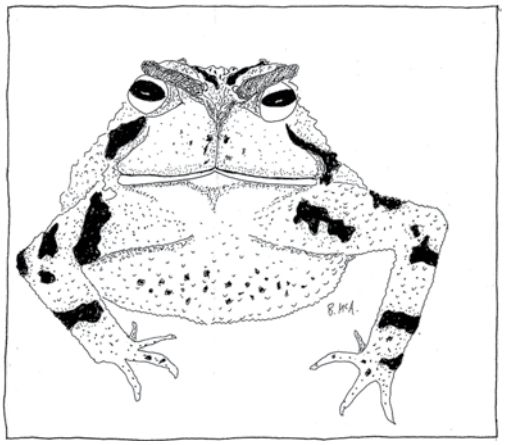
By the middle of May, the dream frogs are quiet here. Their lovely singing, can be heard any time of day or night earlier in spring, but only for a couple of weeks. This song, as Henry Thoreau put it, "… probably has connection with their loves." Current field guides with their pragmatic parlance, call this marvelous trilling a mating call.

Thoreau had a good botany book which he carried, also his journal. Would he, today, take along his smart phone with every imaginable app? Would he speak to the phone, asking Siri to hook him up with frog love songs so he can figure out what he is hearing? Though I find this hard to picture, I also find him a modern man of his time, which was 1852 in the case of the dream frogs. If he'd had his frog app, complete with photos and sounds, he'd have learned right away that he was hearing toads, not frogs. He learned that anyway soon enough, thanks to sitting still by a pond. In early May of 1852 he writes, "my dream frog turns out to be a toad." Honest information, duly noted. That's our man.

If he'd had the app and turned on the sound, he would have confused the toads in the region. Birders who once carried assorted field guides are now likely to carry the app, and with it comes the admonition not to play it out in the woods where you might completely mess with the natural occurrence of bird loves. I guess you could put on your ear buds or headset, keeping your love-song research to yourself.

As for the toads, we have them all the time here. They are amphibians, meaning they live in two worlds. For the American toad, *Bufo americanus*, early childhood is spent in the water world. Little black pollywogs hatch and stay there for about four weeks, getting bigger. Toward the end of this time they climb out of the water, transformed into tiny half-inch toads. Now they head away, disperse, and take up life on dry land. They have to stay safe and somewhat moist, and they accomplish this by digging shallow burrows in the dirt and backing into them. They will stay there during the dry daytime and come out at night to hunt for a meal. A good place to find a toad out and about is on a path or walkway where there is a porch light turned on after dark. This attracts insects, and toads eat insects, also earthworms.

Toads have protective coloring for blending in with dirt, as in a garden, also dead leaves and duff as in the woods. Thoreau took a few toads home to study them more closely and noted color changes. He thought some toads were pale, some dark, and it is true that the big females are often a reddish brown during the breeding or love season. Also, toads and many other *anurans*, which is the frog and toad group, or taxonomic order, can change color to better match the background where they are sitting. Most mammals won't eat toads since they give off a repellent toxin from big glands called parotids just behind the head. Snakes don't seem to mind this toxin so toads have developed the ability to inflate their bodies making themselves impossible to eat for all but the big snakes.



Body inflation is important for resonant singing, and Thoreau watched as a male toad filled up his lungs first and then squeezed this air up into the throat pouch which blew up like a balloon. Toads sit in the water with the balloon of the throat pouch above the surface, and their eyes barely visible beyond the balloon. They keep their mouths closed and can run the air from the pouch to the lungs and back

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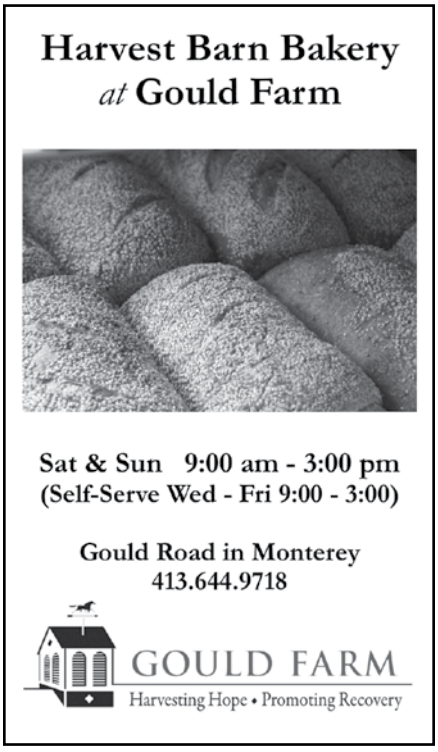
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to the pouch again. Male toads are not territorial about their mating ponds and may set up trilling about three inches from each other, or even closer if there are many of them. Females come around, and so do more males. The big group choruses can be heard a long way off. Each male has a different pitch, depending upon his size, but also upon his temperature.

Female toads show a preference for males with low-pitched voices. Small "tenor" males head for deep water so their bodies become cooler and their voices lower. This way they attract females even though they are not big naturally-bass toads. They also hang around the edges of the pond and when the females come dashing through looking for a big bass male, little agile tenors may jump on board first and succeed in mating. Sometimes a male toad will climb onto another male by mistake, at which point the one underneath will let out a "release call" and the top one lets go and saving his attentions for a female. During breeding season, males have special thumb pads or claspers that help them hang onto the backs of females.

Toads lay eggs in long, clear, gelatinous strands. They string out in the water behind the female. The male on her back has his feet near the egg-emerging place, the cloaca, and when he feels the eggs streaming by, he lets off sperm and the eggs are fertilized externally. Each female puts out thousands of eggs in her pair of strands.

In a week or two, the eggs hatch. We have little black pollywogs in our garden pool now. This pool is a submerged stock tank from the years when we had goats in the barnyard. We keep rocks piled at one end so creatures can get to the surface easily to get a drink, or to the shore. I think our teeny toads will climb out there when they are ready, probably by the middle of June. When they grow up, they will become dream frogs. Maybe some will come right back to our garden, or even spend their whole lives there, hunting by night and backed into the dirt by day. In spring we'll hear them trilling. I've read they can live for thirty years or more. We'll be gone and our garden will look different by then, someone else's dreams.

—Bonner McAllester

In Rememberance
Muriel Lazzarini

Muriel L. (Vaughan) Lazzarini, 78, of Monterey, MA, died in her home on May 11 following a recent diagnosis of cancer. Born in Long Beach, California, Muriel loved good food, the arts, reading, politics, and most of all, her family. She spent many years in food preparation, from baking bread in the basement of her home, to owning a catering business when she and her family lived in Maryland. After moving to Monterey in 1989, Muriel became active in many town and regional committees and served three terms on the Monterey select board. Muriel led her entire family through both great tragedy and great triumph. She did so with the utmost grace, strength, and integrity.

At her memorial service, her husband Bob delivered the eulogy. He used three stories from her life to illustrate how her experiences "molded her views on civil rights, women's rights, and helped to develop her leadership skills."

In 1958, after one year of university experience, as a "pretty blue-eyed blonde twenty years old," she took a long bus trip from California through the deep south, down to Miami, and up the east coast to New York City. This trip gave her an early look at race relations in the South before the civil unrest began three years later. This experience led to her involvement in nonviolent protests and responsible civil disobedience in later years.

She went on to several positions as a baker, pastry chef, and executive chef that afforded opportunities to grow in her leadership abilities.

Bob concluded by affirming that, "Muriel…had an acute natural talent for learning from life's experiences. She was a most remarkable woman."

Muriel was pre-deceased by her daughter, Alison Lazzarini, her parents, and siblings Kenneth Vaughan and Shirley Abler. She leaves behind her husband of fifty-seven years, Bob Lazzarini; her son Jonathan Lazzarini; her daughter Diana Mackin; four grandchildren Michael Lazzarini, Donovan Mackin, Colin Mackin, and Erin Mackin; her sisters in-law Lois Borresen and Philomena Vaughan; twelve nieces and nephews and their families. A memorial service was held at the Monterey United Church of Christ on Saturday, May 21.

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From the Meetinghouse
Rituals of the Season

Mary Kate Jordan

Rituals anchor us, sometimes well, sometimes less so. The word ritual has two threads of meaning. I've combined them in this list: custom, routine, formal procedure, ceremony, rite, service, sacrament. We live in a time when those two threads scarcely resemble each other, with "ceremony" being the pivotal word, the one which most easily fits into both categories.

When we, the human tribe, all lived close to the earth, we were also more generally connected to public rituals. For much of human history, those rituals carried strong spiritual significance. In very early times, as today, seasonal rituals helped people know when to plant, when to harvest. It's just that the rituals have changed. Today we generally depend on the groundhog, the weather man, the written calendar. Farmers, of course, still depend, too, on their sense of the wind, the rain, the weather in the moment. Today with most of our food available for sale down to road in a supermarket or farmer's market, it seems as if we don't have as much need to make our spring rituals deeply felt enough to have an impact on our inner landscapes. It seems as if we don't have the same motivation as our ancestors: to do all we can to survive with enough food to make from now to the next planting season.

The flower feeding the bee in the photo usually blooms at the start of the fourth week in June. That's close to the day dedicated to Saint John on the medieval Christian calendar. The plant, *hypericum perforatum*, is commonly called St. Johnswort, St. John's Flower, in English. In earlier times, it's arrival year after year marked both a religious and a natural ritual. People looked forward to it.

Some of us still do. If you look at one of the bright yellow petals from the back, you'll see some garnet-red dots. If you add enough flowers to a clear jar half-filled with olive oil, cap it and set it in the sun for 15 to 21 days, the red dots will release their oil and all the oil in the jar will turn a beautiful garnet red. But I'd suggest stopping there. Putting the oil on your skin can create a simple or extreme sensitivity to sunlight.

Wildflowers aren't the only source of seasonal anchoring, of course, no matter what the current culture may be. Around here gardening's still a ritual almost all of us indulge in. What's your pleasure: multiple rows of flowers, vegetables and herbs? A single pack of annuals in a sunny spot near the garage? A pot of cherry tomatoes on the deck? Whatever the size, whatever the contents, here's a tip of the hat to your version, and mine, of this season's garden.

And a deep bow of gratitude to the bees who make it all possible.

—Mary Kate Jordan

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Berkshire Beekeepers News
Community Center Hives

I've been doing research, titled "Bees Across Massachusetts," on mites, pesticide poisoning, and swarms among honeybee colonies. Berkshire County Beekeepers have placed two hives in the lower meadow of the Monterey Community Center, and there will be a third hive which will be a swarm I've collected somewhere to compare it with the first two. I have research hives placed from Berkshire School in Sheffield to Sheep Hill in Williamstown, stretching fifty-three miles. I am presently raising a couple of queens in Monterey.

My main goal is community education and making people aware through workshops and presentations that our bees are in serious trouble.

In a couple of weeks I'll be extracting honey and would like people to enjoy it in Monterey. My hope is to share some with Monterey residents who would like it and to explain what I'm doing. There may be some honey available for sale through the community center, with all proceeds to benefit the center. Look for dates in the July calendar in the *Monterey News*.

If you have questions or are interested in workshop dates, email me at BeesAcrossMassachusetts@gmail.com.

—Russ Wilson

Maureen Banner

Joe Baker led a bird walk along New Marlboro Road on May 14. Observing the rough-legged hawk are Libby Wolf, Cindy Hoogs, Michael Banner, Joe Baker, Sarah Hudson, Mark Simmons, Laurie Shaw, and Bonner Jean McAllester.

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Community Center News

We appreciate the town's support shown at town meeting, and we are excited about the prospect of coming down the home stretch on the renovation. We have already embarked on some of the important items on our "to do" list. Just five days after town meeting more good news for the community center project came in, as we were notified by the Massachusetts Cultural Council of awarding us a $25,000 grant toward the completion of the center. Unfortunately that entire amount may not in the end be available, depending on what happens between the legislature and the governor with the arts budget. We will all just have to stay tuned on that.

Our next big event will be our annual tag sale to be held on Saturday, July 16 (one day only). We will be erecting a large tent with walls the week before, so that you can drop off donation items from July 9 to 15. That gives you time to organize yourself to come back on the 16th to restock your household with all the things your neighbors don't need but you do.

We appreciate your donating your serviceable and desirable items; no books please—give them instead to the Monterey Library for its annual book sale. All proceeds from the tag sale to benefit the community center. See the ad below.

Thank you again for your continued support. Stop by any time to see the progress or share your ideas.
—Friends of Wilson McLaughlin House

Monterey Farmers Market

Opening Tuesday June 14, 4 to 6 p.m. Join your neighbors and celebrate our local farmers and food producers!

Vendor space is still available for the season or per diem. Also seeking volunteers and performers. Contact Hannah Bracken for more information. hannah.bracken@gmail.com (413)854-8545.

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In Land We Trust

Monterey Land Trust Talk

The mission of the Monterey Preservation Land Trust shall be the preservation of natural resources and open spaces, principally in the Town of Monterey, with particular focus on maintaining much of Monterey's remaining farmland in agricultural production, protecting waterways, ponds and lakes, and setting aside a sufficient portion of Monterey's forestland for multiple recreational activities.

As a follow up to last month's Woodburn Boys telling stories of working with Shel Fenn on his farm, we decided to continue talking about farming in Monterey by hosting an evening about the Monterey Land Trust. On Saturday, May 21, we heard stories about the beginning of the Land Trust from Joyce Scheffey who, along with her husband Lew, founded the trust in 1984. Joining Joyce at the table was Peter Vallianos, who is the longest serving board member, and who brought the most extensive amount of historical documents his briefcase could hold. Seated next to Joyce was Roger Tryon, one of the first board members who is a fifth generation Monterey farmer following his dad, Dick. Wayne Burkhart joined the group to talk about farming Shel Fenn's property as well as the land given by Bob Thieriot.

Jean Germain brought with her the *Monterey News* from October 1989 for which Joyce Scheffey had written an article about the Monterey Land Trust annual picnic. Reading the article was a great way to kick off the evening as well as to clarify a few points. Evelyn Vallianos and Barbara Tryon were on hand to add some nods to the stories, and as always, the evening was videotaped. Remember that *Monterey: A Local History*, a book filled with stories of people, places, and events that shape our town and our traditions, is on sale at the Monterey Library for $20 with $10 going to the library.

On Monday, June 13, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the library, the Monterey History Project continues with an evening of summer stories and s'mores.

—Wendy Germain

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Bidwell Craft Workshops

Primitive Arts Skills

On Saturday, June 4, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Bidwell House Museum kicks off a craft workshop series for young families, taking place throughout the summer season. "Primitive Art Skills and Fire Building" encourages participants to use natural materials to make their own inks, paints, and writing utensils, such as willow charcoal, quill pens, and inks from nuts and berries. Participants will assist in building and tending a fire, learning the architecture of successful fire-building.

Home Garden Herbal Medicine

On Saturday, June 11, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. "Home Medicine from Herbal Gardens" introduces the practice of harvesting and using herbs from the garden for health and illness—a practical guide to the garden, or living medicine cabinet. Learn about traditional herbs cultivated at the Bidwell House Museum's heirloom garden. Presenter Atalanta Sunguroff, from Wake Robin Botanicals, will discuss various remedies and preparation techniques.

Craft workshops: Members: $10, nonmembers: $15. Admission to the museum is included in the program cost. Please preregister online at BidwellHouseMuseum.org, or call 528-6888.

Bidwell History Talks

June 18: Town to Casino

Past & Present: Praying Town to Casino – Current Issues of Sovereignty for Native Americans.

On Saturday, June 18, at 10 a.m., Eugene Fidell, who teaches Federal Indian Law and American Indian Tribal Law at Yale Law School, will highlight some of the hottest issues facing Native America today. Gaming is only a small part of the story—sovereignty is the main event and fault line. Rick Wilcox will give a brief history of the Stockbridge Mohicans and how they came to be where they are today.

June 25: Rev. Bidwell's Weeks

A Week in the Life of Rev. Adonijah Bidwell, Reimagined.

On Saturday, June 25, at 10 a.m., John Demos, Samuel Knight Professor of American History Emeritus at Yale University, will explore the life of a frontier pastor in early America. His talk is based on what is known about Adonijah Bidwell (1716-1784), the first minister of Tyringham and one of the earliest in the Berkshires, as well as from accounts of other eighteenth-century New England pastors.

Bidwell History Talks will will be held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: $10. Nonmembers: $15.

Bidwell House Museum Township No. 1 Day

Township No. 1 Day, the free community celebration of Tyringham and Monterey history, is taking place this year on Saturday, July 2, from 1 to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited. Fun events are planned for the whole afternoon:

- Live music by local musicians, including Bonner McAllester and Joe Baker
- Crafts, games and face-painting for kids
- A baking contest, this year competing for best cookies, cakes and pies
- History talks
- Food and drink
- Craft demonstrations
- And much more!

Bring your friends to spend a fun afternoon at the Bidwell House Museum on Art School Road. Enter a pie, cookies or cake in the contest. All events are free, thanks in part to the support of a grant from the Monterey and Tyringham Cultural Councils and a fantastic group of volunteers. For more information, please call 528-6888. —Please note: The museum is closed for tours this day.

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Monterey's Baseball Fields–Record Participation

The Monterey baseball Cal Ripken league, headed by President Jim Edelman, has fielded four baseball teams this season of over seventy players from five to twelve years old. Games for players ages five through ten are played at Monterey's Greene Park which features an improved infield and new backstop thanks to the Monterey Parks Commission. Over twenty games are played during May and June against teams from Lee and Lenox. Pictured are players from the two AAA eight- to ten-year olds' teams, the River Rapids and the Monterey Blasters, during opening day on Saturday, April 30. —Steve Graves

Steve Graves

Steve Graves

Monterey's Greene Park baseball field has a new backstop for its youth and adult activities. Pictured are the Monterey Blasters and the Lee Zapiens before their game on May 20. The field is used Monday though Saturday in May and June by Monterey's baseball programs for five- to ten-year old players and during July and August by Monterey's Boys of Summer youth baseball program. Sundays during May through October the field is used for adult pick-up softball games at 10:30 a.m.

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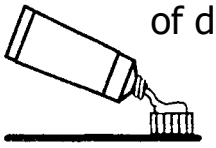

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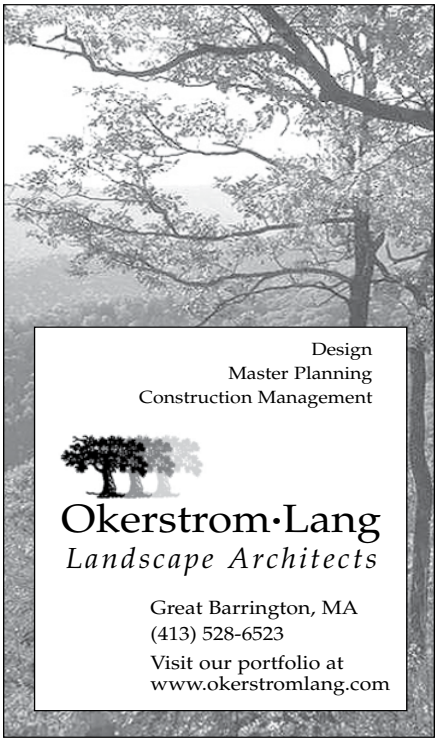

Wildlife Report
Mid-April to Mid-May

Last month Mickey Jervas called to say she had a small hawk for us, one that had flown into a window and died but which she was saving in her freezer. When we saw Mickey at Town Meeting early this month, she handed over the perfect and lovely bird, a sharp-shinned hawk, packed in ice. It is a rare privilege to get such a close look at any wild creature.

Suzanne Sawyer wrote in April about a bear sighting, not the first for her by a long shot, but by far the biggest, she said. This bear was on the deck at midnight, worrying at the bird feeder and birdseed bin. He was so wide that when he finally left, he barely fit "railing to railing going down the stairs." Reluctant to leave the yard, the big bear sat among some garden trees and may have been rubbing and scent-marking on them. Ten minutes late a second somewhat smaller bear arrived, fitting easily between the stair railings and visiting a different tree where it "jumped up to grab it at full height before it walked away."

Also in late April, Kit Patten called to tell of a grouse, which he describes as "unruffled," strutting across the road where Loom Brook goes under Beartown Mountain Road. In this same place, Kit saw a golden fox. "It just glowed." I was reminded of the golden fox seen by Steve Snyder at Gould Farm, back in March. Other sightings by Kit include a 'possum carcass attended by two big turkey buzzards. Kit reports a flock of goldfinches "passing through," a Cooper's hawk, and many deer in the field behind his house.

Mike Skagerlind wrote in late April of a bear "sitting placidly on Mount Hunger Road at 5 p.m.

Early in May, Betty Silk called to tell of ten huge black birds, which must have been turkey buzzards, roosting in a tree. They appeared to be all black, and if their heads were black it means they were young ones. Later their heads will be red. Betty also saw a water snake lying quietly and unharmed in the driveway. She described it as being a small water snake, and then went on to say it was about three feet long! She has seen bigger.

Early in May, Carol Landess of Mount Hunger Road was driving home when she

Carol Landess

saw two young foxes "sunning themselves." When the car approached, they ducked into a nearby culvert under a driveway. She turned around to go back for a look and was rewarded by one youngster coming out again. She got some good photos.

The first week in May, Maureen Banner watched a chipping sparrow pick all the fluff off a dandelion. "It would pick a fluff, chew to the end with the seed on it, and then let the fluffy end fly off. Two of the sparrows cleaned the fluffy flower head in about three minutes."

Noel Wicke saw a pileated woodpecker on a tree stump outside Main House at Gould Farm and sent a photo. She also reports her bluebirds laid five eggs in the first part of May but after a few days they were all gone, as were the bluebirds. Now chickadees have moved in.

The folks on Joe Baker's bird walk from the Community Center, in the same neighborhood, saw some of all these, plus a rough-legged hawk over the field downslope from Brookmead Farm. The walkers saw barn swallows here, and a few days earlier Nancy Martin was driving along New Marlboro Road in this place and saw a bear with two cubs.

That's the report, from this exciting time of year. The jack-in-the-pulpits here on East Hupi Road are up now, just as Mary Kate said they would be when she gave us all that fine photograph on the last *Monterey News* front page.

— Bonner McAllester
528-9385 bonnermca@gmail.com.

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Father's Day
It's Time for Your Review

The problem with Father's Day is that it's not Mother's Day.

Mother's Day we distribute kisses and flowers in a ridiculously over-simplified effort to reciprocate a mother's immeasurable love. And of course she cherishes the flowers. She cherishes the kisses. Most of all, she cherishes that all her little ingrates are lined up before her in a forced march of overdue affection.

Simply put, mothers have nothing to lose and nothing to prove on Mother's Day.

Father's Day, by comparison, feels more like a yearly employee performance review. While not outright armed with clipboards and pencils, your offspring take the opportunity to step back and evaluate you in the silence of their own hearts, wondering:

In what ways have you demonstrated knowledge of all phases of your job and the relationship of your work to that of your marriage and the overall organization? Has your work as a father been accurate, thorough and neat? Have you adhered to attendance policies? In what ways can you improve in the coming year.

In this business of parenting, mothers pull themselves up by the stirrups of their own birthing tables. Fathers inherit a corner office by simply showing up.

"But I love this job! I love this job!" you say to yourself, your feet kicked up on the coffee table. "And look at these kids. They love me, too. Check this out …"

When they are infants, you jump around like a monkey and scratch at your armpits, and they laugh and laugh and laugh. When they are toddlers, you do that thing with the orange rind in your mouth, and they laugh and laugh and laugh.

"Dad, pretend to bench press a bulldozer," they say, when they have their fellow kindergarteners over.

On their seventh birthday you wear a birthday hat on your face and peck at the air like a chicken, and they laugh. (Maybe not as much as they would've when they were in preschool. But they laugh alright.)

The benefits package is incredible. It's all accounts receivable at this point.

Through cheap laughs, you pad your resume. As time goes by, you pad it more with more sophisticated investments—macho things like splitting firewood or fixing their bicycles. And as you pad your resume more, you increasingly fear you will be found out as a fraud and your patriarchal portfolio depreciated.

That's the problem with fatherhood. It's not motherhood.

By the sheer fact fathers are incapable of giving birth—that the tortuous act of childbearing has been outsourced wholesale to a single gender that isn't male — fathers are where they are through nepotism alone.

Soon you begin to notice that in serious business matters, the children turn to their mother. Your peek-a-boos and coos are old news. Brand loyalty is at stake. You listen through a cracked bedroom doorway. You cup your ear to the wall. You hear a child's sob and the soft tones of a mother's tender love. You suspect some sort of loyalty program is being developed behind your back. They emerge from their meeting. You act busy. They say nothing.

You fear the worst — that a restructuring is at hand. That your wife and children will shuffle you around trying to find a place for you. Maybe put you in charge of transportation. But no one says anything.

A skinned elbow, and to whom do they turn? Their mother. A shirt needs buttoning? Their mother. How do they like their toast? Apparently not like that.

You wonder if you need a new marketing strategy. Or maybe every once in a while you need to bang your fist on the table during shareholders meetings with the grandparents.

You start to stew.

You take inventory.

Wait a minute: Wasn't this whole family enterprise my idea? Wasn't I the one who got this thing off the ground?

Yes, of course I was!

"Kids," you want to say, "I first laid eyes on your mother across the room at a pizza parlor. Where most men would see high-risk, I saw high-potential. At the conclusion of a two-year probationary period, I got down on one knee and offered her the opportunity for the exclusive distribution of my love."

You stew some more.

Back in your corner office you close the door behind you. You hear voices in your head. You smell the second-hand pipe smoke of the fathers who came before you, the crusty men in business suits who harrumphed a lot and kept the kids at arms length.

"You are head of the household," they tell you. "You are the conveyer of moral values. You're a model of stoicism. You call the shots. Your paternal bond is the only adhesive connecting the human species to the age of the gods. Remember where you came from."

You know their ideas are bankrupt.

There are other things you know, too.

You know that because you have never pushed a watermelon-sized mortal out of your pelvis, you will remain the household's most vulnerable demographic.

You know that in the home, human capital is assessed against the love of a mother.

You know that despite the thoughtful homemade Fathers Day cards, you remain on the verge of a written warning.

You know she's risen to the top of the family corporation because she's a goody-two shoes.

Business is business.

— Felix Carroll, a.k.a. "Father"

Otis Annual Sup & Swing

On Saturday, June 18, Otis will have its annual Otis Sup & Swing celebration. Bring your picnic basket and dancing shoes and join us in a free concert to the indomitable sounds of the famous Wanda Houston Band. Picnic from 6 to 7 p.m., and music from 7 to 9:30 p.m. The event is at the Izaak Walton Field, Route 8 North, just north of the Farmington River School. For more information, call 269-0220.

— Otis Cultural Council

In Rememberance

Wendell W. Heath

Wendell Heath, who grew up in Monterey among a large family in the area, and was a lifelong resident of Springfield, and East Longmeadow, died peacefully at home on April 20. He was welcomed into the Gates of Heaven by his devoted wife of fifty-nine years, Marge, his brother, Donald, and his mother and father Anna and Wendell. He was the loving father of Debbie Heath-Maki. He is also survived by his dear sister, Beverly King of, Canaan, CT, and many nieces and nephews.

Following his graduation from Searles High School, he served honorably in the Marine Corps during World War II in Guam. He attended UMass Amherst before his long career at Mobil Oil as a stock analyst, where he met Marge. Following his retirement, he went on to work at Hafey Funeral Home for over tweny years. Being a devout Catholic, he lectured at Holy Name Parish, volunteered and was an active member of the men's club for decades. He was also a Life Member of the ELKS Lodge 61 in Springfield.

Wendell was an avid golfer and a dedicated grandfather and great-grandfather. He lead his little fishermen to find crabs with nets baited with leftover lunch meat.

He enjoyed tinkering at his bench. He was well-known for his sense of humor and witty one-liners. He was celebrated by military honors at his funeral. His burial will be privately held at Corashire Cemetery in Monterey, MA. Donations in his memory may be made to Massachusetts General Hospital, Development Office, 125 Nashua Street, Boston, MA 02114.

TOWN OF MONTEREY
435 Main Rd. P.O. Box 308
Monterey, MA 01245

The Honorable Charlie Baker
Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor
Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

May 3, 2016

Dear Governor Baker,

The Town of Monterey is facing serious challenges and we need your help.

As you know, Berkshire County is losing population at an increasing rate. Populations that do remain are, on average, significantly older than other areas of the State. This *aging de-population* has put a significant strain on our economy and indeed, the entire economy of Western Massachusetts. Left unchecked, *our burden will be the Commonwealth's burden very soon.*

We believe access to Broadband will significantly help reverse this trend. Broadband has been recognized as an "essential service" by the F.C.C. Quite simply, it promotes new businesses, helps existing businesses remain competitive, and provides homeowners with services that are expected in our 21st Century society.

Similar to the electrification of this country, new technologies are slow to reach rural areas. In this day-and-age, *we simply cannot afford to wait any longer.*

The town of Monterey needs Broadband NOW.

Monterey is ready for Broadband. We are fully aware of the risks of constructing and operating a Broadband Network, and have voted to fund our share of the monies necessary to do so. Our Select Board & Broadband Committee are working tirelessly to identify suitable providers and begin the installation process.

A Broadband resolution has been adopted by the Monterey Select Board and is enclosed. It respectfully asks that the PAUSE be lifted and monies earmarked *for our town* be released *to our town* as quickly as possible.

With your help, we can move Monterey and the Commonwealth, towards a vigorous, dynamic, accessible, and prosperous future.
Respectfully,

Scott Jenssen, Chair Kenneth Basler Steven Weisz

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April and May Donations
Annual Fund Appeal

The *Monterey News* board thanks everyone who helps fund our paper all year long. The annual appeal generates the majority of our income that sustains the paper for twelve issues each year. It is worth noting for newer readers that the *Monterey News* has published each month since 1970 without paid subscriptions, and that the advertising income does little more than pay for the space the ads take up. Approximately two-thirds of our monthly editions are sent by mail, which expands the meaning of Monterey's community to include folks from all over.

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Osborne & Etta Dugan

FLG Annual Meeting

The Friends of Lake Garfield invite everyone to come to our first meeting of the year June 12, at 10 a.m., at the firehouse.

We will discuss a comprehensive five-year plan for lake management, the plans for creating a lake district, current plans for a rapid response for the growing milfoil problem, and our applications to the state for grants.

—Michael Germain

Bob & Muriel Lazzarini
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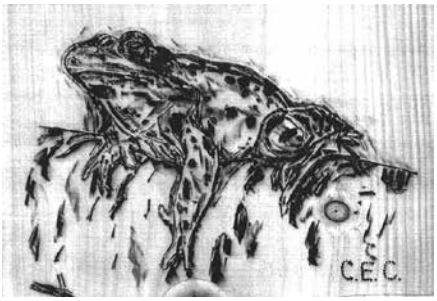

Chris Carnese on Point Road has shared a selection of his woodburning art for use in the Monterey News. *Thanks Chris.*

Select Board Corner

Welcome to the Select Board Corner. Our goal is to submit an article each month to the *Monterey News* to keep everyone up to date on important issues, office closings, highway projects, etc. This article may be especially important for those who cannot access our website. We welcome any comments or suggestions on the articles.

www.MontereyMA.gov

Our town website is a great way to access information about the town.

Meetings and Events

Board of Health: Monday, June 6 and 20, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Conservation Commission: Tuesday, June 14, at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Wednesday, June 8 and 22, at 10 a.m.

Free wellness clinic: Berkshire VNA on Thursday, June 9, from 2 to 3 p.m.

Foot Nurse: Thursday, July 14, 9 to 11:30 a.m., by appointment (please call 528-1443 x247). All ages are welcome.

Parks Commission: Wednesday, June 1, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursday, June 9 and 23, at 7 p.m. Please call Maggie Leonard at 528-9685 to be placed on the agenda.

Select Board: Mondays, June 6, 13, and 20, at 9 a.m.,, and June 27 at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Office/Town Hall Closings

The administrative assistant's office will be closed on the following Fridays: June 3, 10, 17, and 24. Individual office closings are posted on the town calendar and on the department's voicemail message. We recommend always calling ahead.

Other News

The Monterey Select Board will soon be forming two new temporary town committees: one to address the needs of Lake Garfield, and another to review resumes for a town administrator. If you are interested in joining either of these committees, please send an email to admin@montereyma.gov.

— Kenn Basler, Chair
Steve Weisz and Carol Edelman
Monterey Select Board
(kenn@montereyma.gov)
(steve@montereyma.gov)
(carol@montereyma.gov)

For general inquiries, please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov

Save the Dates

The summer calendar is beginning to fill. If you have a public event scheduled during the summer months, have it listed in "Save the Dates."

July 2: Township No. 1 Day

July 16: Community center tag sale.

July 17: Pittsfield Suns baseball game trip.

July 30: Fire Company Steak Roast

August 3: Friends of Lake Garfield's MontereyFest

August 13: Celebrate Adonijah Bidwell's birthday at Bidwell House Museum.

August 20: Knox Gallery reception—Anne Shatas and William Carlson.

August 21: LobsterFest

Steven Weisz

Stephen Moore

The new transfer station is progressing. The left photo was from May 15, showing the reinforcing bar coming up from the footings into the future wall. On the right, taken May 29, shows the concrete forms for the staggered dumpster stations, and the finished walls for the compactor. In the left foreground are trusses for the roof over the station.

Calendar

Every Sunday: Adult softball. Batting practice at 10, games 10:30, Greene Park.

Every Tuesday:

No stitchery this month but will meet all four Tuesdays in July.

Chair Yoga with Connie Wilson, 9 to 10 a.m., Monterey Town Hall. Free, sponsored by Monterey Parks Commission.

Cards and Games club, at 12:30 to 3 p.m., at the town hall.

Saturday, June 4: Bidwell Crafts Workshop: Primative Arts Skills. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. See page 23.

Thursday, June 9:

Wellness clinic, BVNA, town hall meeting room, 2 to 3 p.m.

Friday, June 10: Knox Gallery exhibit opening, David Bacharach, *A Parliament of Owls/A Conspiracy of Ravens*. Through July 23. See page 10.

Saturday, June 11:

Fishing Derby, 9 to 10:30 a.m., Berkshire National Fish Hatchery, kids twelve and under. (Next derby is July 9.)

Bidwell Crafts Workshop: Home medicine from herbal gardens. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. See page 23.

Knox Gallery reception, 6:30 to 8 p.m. David Bacharach, *A Parliament of Owls/A Conspiracy of Ravens*. See page 10.

Sunday, June 12: Friends of Lake Garfield annual meeting, 10 a.m., at the firehouse. See page 29.

Monday, June 13: Tell your story: Summer in Monterey. 7 p.m., Monterey Library. See page 22.

Tuesday, June 14: Farmers Market, 4 to 6 p.m., community center.

Saturday, June 18:

Bidwell History Talk: Sovereignty for Native Americans. 10 a.m., Tyringham Union Church. See page 23.

Monterey General Store, reception for artist Harry Orlyk. 5 to 7 p.m. See page 15.

Otis Sup and Swing. See page 27

Lenox Contra Dance from 8 to 11 p.m., new dancer session at 7:45. Live music by Jim and Kathleen Fownes, with all dances called and taught by Peter Stix. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org. Contact 528-4007. LenoxContraDance.org

Monday, June 20: *Monterey News* deadline.

Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4007 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

Tuesday, June 21: Farmers Market, 4 to 6 p.m., community center.

Saturday, June 25:

Bidwell History Talk: A Week in Rev. Bidwell's Life. 10 a.m., Tyringham Union Church. See page 23.

Monday, June 27: Adult book group meets at 7:30 p.m. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library. All are welcome.

Tuesday, June 28: Farmers Market, 4 to 6 p.m., community center.

Thursday, June 30: Friends of the Library will meet at 5 p.m. in the Knox Gallery to accept officer resignations and elect a new president.

Saturday, July 2:

Monterey Library summer program: Magician Jim Snack, 10:30 a.m.

Bidwell House Museum Township No. 1 day, 1 to 4 p.m. See page 23.

Saturday, July 9: Liz Goodman's *Breaking & Entering*, book release party, 4 p.m., Monterey General Store.

Town Contact Information

Emergency! 911

Administrative Assistant:
528-1443 x111
admin@montereyma.gov
(for town boards and misc. questions)

Assessor: 528-1443 x115
assessors@montereyma.gov

Building Dept.: 528-1443 x118
buildingsafety@montereyma.gov

Fire Department (non-emergency):
528-3136
fire_service@montereyfire.org

Highway Dept.: 528-1734
mhwy@verizon.net

Library: 528-3795
montereylibrary@gmail.com

Police Dept. (non-emergency):
528-1443 x116,
Alternate emergency 528-3211
mpdchief@montereyma.gov

Post Office: 528-4670

Tax Collector: 528-1443 x117
montereytax@yahoo.com
(for questions about your tax bill)

Town Clerk: 528-1443 x113
clerk@montereyma.gov
(for licenses and town records)

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Contributions from local artists this month:
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